

Claims:

1. An interactive vacation destination selection system,  
comprising:

a) a computer including data files and user interface files, the data files including vacation criteria and attributes from a plurality of vacation destinations, said attributes being assigned to one or more of said vacation criteria;

b) a terminal in communication with said computer;

c) a display; and

d) a user input device,

said terminal adapted to receive said user interface files and said vacation criteria from said computer and to display said user interface file and said vacation criteria on said display,

wherein upon selection via the user input device of a plurality of said displayed vacation criteria, said computer provides a recommendation of at least one vacation destination which is displayed on said display of said terminal.

2. An interactive vacation destination selection system according to claim 1, wherein:

said user interface files are HTML files.

3. An interactive vacation destination selection system according to claim 1, wherein:

at least a plurality of said criteria each has a respective associated image file.

4. An interactive vacation destination selection system according to claim 3, wherein:

said image file associated with one of said criteria is changeable dependent upon the selection of another of said criteria.

5. An interactive vacation destination selection system according to claim 1, wherein:

said criteria are organized into categories, said categories including at least two from the group: destination, local area, accommodation, activities, suitability for children, and individual needs.

6. An interactive vacation destination selection system according to claim 1, wherein:

said user interface files include requests for input with respect to at least six of the following inquiries: the age ranges of travelers, when the user wants to travel, for how long the user wants to travel, how far away the use wants to travel, a budget range for the vacation, and a general type of vacation sought.

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7. An interactive vacation destination selection system according to claim 1, wherein:

said user interface files include focus inquiries to focus a user on what the user wants to experience on a vacation.

8. An interactive vacation destination selection system according to claim 1, wherein:

said computer prepares a file collecting selected displayed vacation criteria and image files.

9. An interactive vacation destination selection system according to claim 1, wherein:

said recommendation of at least one vacation destination includes for each vacation destination at least four of: a photograph, a map, information about the destination, the weather of the destination, a hyperlink to additional information about the destination, recommended accommodations, prices, access, and availability.

10. An interactive vacation destination selection system according to claim 1, wherein:

said user interface files includes means for editing selected criteria such that the computer presents modified recommendations.

11. A method for selecting a vacation destination, comprising:

- a) presenting to a user inquiries with respect to criteria for a vacation destination, none of said inquiries requesting the user to indicate where the user wants to vacation;
- b) selecting a plurality of said criteria by the user;
- c) determining from said selected plurality of criteria at least one recommended vacation destination for the user; and
- d) outputting to said user said at least one recommended vacation destination.

12. A method according to claim 11, wherein:

said selecting includes selecting a general type of vacation.

13. A method according to claim 11, wherein:

said criteria each have an associated image file.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein:

each said associated image file is a photographic image.

15. A method according to claim 13, wherein:

said presenting includes arranging said criteria and said associated image files in a two-dimensional array.

16. A method according to claim 11, further comprising:

e) after selecting, ranking a subset of said plurality of selected criteria.

17. A method according to claim 11, further comprising:

e) after selecting and prior to determining, providing to the user a display of said selected criteria and requesting the user to remove at least one of said criteria.

18. A method according to claim 11, further comprising:

e) after outputting, editing said selected criteria by the user.

19. A method according to claim 18, wherein:

said editing includes removing at least one of said selected criteria.

20. A method according to claim 11, wherein:

said output of said recommendation includes for each vacation destination at least four of: a photograph, a map, information about the destination, the weather of the destination, a hyperlink to additional information about the destination, recommended accommodations, prices, access, and availability.